

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 CAB-02

DOTE-00 FAA-00 /082 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JKBISHOP/MGWYGANT:BA

APPROVED BY AF - JAMES J. BLAKE

EB/TT/OA-MR. GORDON (SUB)

PM/SAS-RWSMITH (SUB)

AF/I-JMCOYKENDALL (SUB)

L/AF-MR. SCHMITZ (SUB)

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R 200025Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 062512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, EAIR, UV, FR

SUBJECT: MALI-UPPER VOLTA BORDER DISPUTE: ARMS AIRLIFT

REF: PARIS 04146 (NOTAL)

PARIS FOR MELONE

1. DEPARTMENT LEARNED MARCH 14 THAT SATURN AIRWAYS, A US CARRIER, HAS BEEN HIRED BY FRENCH ARMORED VEHICLE MANUFACTURER PANHARD TO TRANSPORT ARMORED CARS AND AMMUNITION FROM NIMES TO OUAGADOUGOU VIA ALGIERS AND
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NIAMEY ON FIVE FLIGHTS DURING PERIOD APRIL 2-7. EQUIP-

MENT AND MUNITIONS TO BE FLOWN IN US REGISTERED AIRCRAFT
AND CONSIGNED TO GOUV.

2. IN ABSENCE ANY LEGAL AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT PROPOSED
ARMS AIRLIFT, DEPTOFF INFORMED SATURN REPRESENTATIVE OF
US EMBARGO ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO UPPER VOLTA AND MALI,
POINTING OUT THAT US POLICY NEUTRALITY COULD BE COM-
PROMISED BY ARMS DELIVERY ABOARD US REGISTERED AIRCRAFT.
AFTER DISCUSSION WITHIN SATURN'S HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT
INFORMED BY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE THAT SATURN FEELS
OBLIGED COMPLY WITH TERMS OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATED WITH
PANHARD.

3. FOR PARIS: IN VIEW ASSURANCES RECEIVED FROM FRENCH
(MOST RECENT DESCRIBED REFTEL) THAT THEY WERE STALLING

ON RESPONDING TO VOLTAN ARMS REQUEST AND WOULD REGARD
INTRODUCTION NEW ARMS AS UNSETTLING, SUGGEST EMBASSY
INQUIRE IF PANHARD HAS RECEIVED LICENSE FOR EXPORT OF
ARMORED CARS AND AMMUNITION. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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